

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A polymer blend comprising at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 10 and at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) above 30 wherein said polymer blend has a multi-modal molecular weight distribution.
2. A polymer blend according to Claim 1 wherein the nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 10 has a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 5.
3. A polymer blend according to Claim 1 wherein the nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 10 has a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 1.
4. A polymer blend according to Claim 1 wherein the polymer blend has a bi-modal molecular weight distribution.
5. A process for preparing a polymer blend according to any of claims 1-4 wherein at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 10 and at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) above 30 are mixed in a solvent and the blend is isolated from the solvent.
6. A process for the manufacture of a shaped article comprising the step of injection molding a polymer blend comprising at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 10 and at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) above 30 wherein said polymer blend has a multi-modal molecular weight distribution.

7. A process according to Claim 6, wherein the shaped article is a seal, gasket, belt, hose, bearing pad, stator, well head seal, valve plate, cable sheathing, wheel roller, in place gaskets or pipe seal.
- 5 8. A process for the manufacture of a shaped article comprising the step of liquid injection molding a polymer blend comprising at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 10 and at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) above 30 wherein said polymer blend has a multi-modal molecular weight distribution.
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9. A process for the manufacture of a shaped article comprising the step of compression and/or transfer molding a polymer blend comprising at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 10 and at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) above 30 wherein said polymer blend has a multi-modal molecular weight distribution.
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10. A process for the manufacture of a shaped article comprising the step of extruding a polymer blend comprising at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) below 10 and at least one nitrile rubber polymer having a Mooney viscosity (ML 1+4 @ 100°C) above 30 wherein said polymer blend has a multi-modal molecular weight distribution.
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11. A process according to Claim 8, wherein the shaped article is a seal, gasket, belt, hose, bearing pad, stator, well head seal, valve plate, cable sheathing, wheel roller, in place gaskets or pipe seal.
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12. A process according to Claim 9, wherein the shaped article is a seal, gasket, belt, hose, bearing pad, stator, well head seal, valve plate, cable sheathing, wheel roller, in place gaskets or pipe seal.
- 5 13. A process according to Claim 10, wherein the shaped article is a seal, gasket, belt, hose, bearing pad, stator, well head seal, valve plate, cable sheathing, wheel roller, in place gaskets or pipe seal.